



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND  
DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Patent No. 6683978

Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_

### NOTICE OF *EX PARTE* REEXAMINATION

Notice is hereby given that a request for *ex parte* reexamination of U.S. Patent No. 6683978 was filed on 11/17/99 under 35 U.S.C. 302 and 37 CFR 1.510(a).

The reexamination proceeding has been assigned Control No. 90/ 009846.

This Notice incorporates by reference into the patent file, all papers entered into the reexamination file.

**Note:** This Notice should be entered into the patent file and given a paper number.